



MAINE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

23 State House Station
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333

STATE OF MAINE

The State Board of Education held a regular monthly meeting on January 15, 2014, at the Cross State Office Building, Augusta, Maine. The following members were present: Chair Nancy Perkins; Steven Pound; Martha Harris; Jana Lapoint; Heidi Sampson; William Beardsley; Nichi Farnham; and Kristin Bishop.

Excused: Vice Chair Peter Geiger and Ande Smith

Also present were: Harry Osgood, Project Consultant (DOE); Deborah Friedman, Policy and Programs Director; Margaret Harvey, Career and Technical Education Director; Donna Tiner, Perkins Grant Manager; Mark Cyr, Certification Coordinator; Guest, Alyssa Wardwell; and Mary Becker, Secretary Associate, State Board of Education

CALLED TO ORDER:

Chair Nancy Perkins called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM.

VISION STATEMENT:

Read by Chair, Nancy Perkins: The Vision of the State Board is to prepare Maine public school graduates with the skills and knowledge needed to be college, career, citizenship and life ready.

LETTER TO NEW MEXICO BOARD OF EDUCATION

Nancy will send a letter of condolences to the New Mexico State Board of Education regarding the recent violence at Berrendo Middle School in Roswell, New Mexico.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOVED by Heidi Sampson, seconded by Martha Harris, and voted six in favor with one member abstained (Steven Pound) to approve the December 4, 2013 minutes as written.

NEW BUSINESS:

REQUEST FROM UNIVERSITY OF MAINE FORT KENT FOR APPROVAL OF ITS EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS THROUGH THE SPRING OF 2015

BACKGROUND: The University of Maine Fort Kent's Educator Preparation Program was reviewed in the spring of 2010. At that time the Board approved the UMFK educator preparation program through December 31, 2012 and further requested that UMFK prepare an Interim Report addressing the Team's recommendations concerning Standard 1 and Standard 3. In June of 2012 the Board accepted the Interim Report as a plan for implementation of the Team's

2010 recommendations and further requested a report by December 31, 2013 demonstrating implementation of the plan presented in the Interim Report. At the December meeting the Board, extended the UMFK Educator Preparation Program approval through March of 2014 to provide the Board with time to review the UMFK report.

The University of Maine at Fort Kent delivered a report to the Maine DOE describing the actions that UMFK has taken to implement the plan described in the 2012 Interim Report. Maine DOE received and reviewed the UMFK report. The report focuses on the implementation of the Team's recommendations concerning Standard 1, Initial Teacher Candidate Performance and Standard 3, Field Experiences and Clinical Practice. The report provides evidence of actions taken by the University to address the seven recommendations of the State Board and includes appendices with samples of student work and other materials that serve as documentation.

RECOMMENDATION: That the State Board of Education accept the report from the University of Maine at Fort Kent as evidence of implementation of the plan described in the 2012 Interim Report and that the Board grant program approval for the University of Maine Fort Kent's Educator Preparation Program through spring 2015.

MOVED by Steven Pound, seconded by William Beardsley, and unanimously voted by those present to accept the report from the University of Maine at Fort Kent as evidence of implementation of the plan described in the 2012 Interim Report and that the Board grant program approval for the University of Maine Fort Kent's Educator Preparation Program through spring 2015.

REQUEST TO EXTEND THE REVIEW OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW ENGLAND'S EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS TO THE FALL OF 2015

BACKGROUND: The University of New England is scheduled for a program review in the fall of 2014. The current Chair of the Education Department at UNE will be leaving the University in June of 2014 and a new chair has not been identified. Additionally, due to changes in staffing at UNE, 67% of the faculty and 100% of the administrators in the Education Department are new and several new programs have been designed and are in the early stages of implementation.

A one year delay in the review process would allow faculty to implement new programs and collect evidence prior to the review providing a more accurate and complete report on the University's programming.

State Board Rule Chapter 114, Part 3.1 (e) reads as follows:

Requests for extensions for existing approval, due to extraordinary circumstances, may be granted at the discretion of the State Board of Education; however, such extensions shall not extend the date when the subsequent approval is due. The Board will only consider such requests in emergency situations.

RECOMMENDATION: That the State Board of Education extend the review of the University of New England's Educator Preparation Programs to the Fall of 2015 and extend the current approval of the UNE Teacher Preparation Programs through December 2015.

MOVED by Steven Pound, seconded by Heidi Sampson, and unanimously voted by those present to extend the review of the University of New England's Educator Preparation Programs to the Fall of 2015 and extend the current approval of the UNE Teacher Preparation Programs through December 2015.

CONSIDERATION OF THE TEAM REPORT OF FINDINGS CONCERNING THE MAINE COLLEGE OF ART (MECA) REVIEW FOR THE MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING (MAT) DEGREE - ART EDUCATION K-12

BACKGROUND: The Maine College of Art (MECA) is fully accredited and authorized by the State of Maine to confer the Associate of Arts, the Bachelor of Fine Arts, and the Master of Fine Arts degrees. Located in the heart of the Portland Arts District the College is based in the former Porteous, Mitchell and Braun department store on Congress Street which, having undergone extensive renovations throughout, currently serves as the main campus setting for MECA's various program offerings. Also located within this building is The Institute of Contemporary Art which serves a critical regional role in its commitment to presenting contemporary and provocative work by living artists from Maine and around the globe. MECA's Joanne Waxman Library is one of the largest independent art libraries in Northern New England and is a major resource for the region.

In 2008 MECA requested a focused campus visit to review their new post-baccalaureate program in Art Education K-12. This program provided a one-year (10 month) intensive curriculum of study which included the necessary coursework and student teaching experiences required for certification as an art educator in Maine. The program was designed and developed during the academic year 2004-2005 as an interim step with the aim being to eventually offer the Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) in Art Education K-12. The site review conducted in June of 2008 confirmed that MECA's post-baccalaureate teacher certification program was well grounded and could, with some course adjustments, become the basis for an MAT program being offered in the future. The MECA teacher certification program was granted full five-year approval by the Maine State Board of Education during its September, 2008 meeting.

Rather than simply adding/adjusting coursework, the Art Education Department embarked on a journey to design and align a new program with the core values of MECA, the best research-based practices for teacher preparation, and the changes in teaching and learning brought about through the use of 21st Century technology tools. Since 2008 MECA has designed, developed and implemented an MAT degree program in Art Education K-12 which has replaced the post-baccalaureate teacher certification program.

From Sunday, November 10 through Wednesday, November 13, 2013 Review Team members met on the MECA campus in Portland to thoroughly assess the MAT degree program. Following this visit the Team compiled its Report of Findings which summarizes what the Team found as related to the Board's educator preparation program approval standards.

Copies of the MECA MAT Self Study Report and the Review Team's Report of Findings were distributed for receipt by State Board members during the Board's December 4, 2013 meeting.

RECOMMENDATION: That the State Board of Education accept the Review Team's Report of Findings and grant State program approval to the Maine College of Art (MECA) for its Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) degree in Art Education K-12. The period of approval would be from fall 2013 to fall 2018.

MOVED by Heidi Sampson, seconded by Martha Harris, and unanimously voted by those present to accept the Review Team's Report of Findings and grant State program approval to the Maine College of Art (MECA) for its Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) degree in Art Education K-12. The period of approval would be from fall 2013 to fall 2018.

REQUEST APPROVAL OF THE QUARTERLY REPORT OF THE MAINE CARL D. PERKINS GRANT AS AUTHORIZED UNDER THE CARL D. PERKINS CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION ACT OF 2006 (P.L. 109-270)

As a condition for the receipt of Federal funds to support vocational and technical education, §122 of the recently reauthorized Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (P.L. 109-270) requires a designated “eligible agency” in each State, in Maine’s case, the State Board of Education to submit a State Plan for Career and Technical Education. This plan was approved by the State Board on March 12, 2008. Further requirements are as follows:

“SEC. 121. STATE ADMINISTRATION.

“(a) ELIGIBLE AGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES.—The responsibilities of an eligible agency under this title shall include:

“(3) convening and meeting as an eligible agency (consistent with State law and procedure for the conduct of such meetings) at such time as the eligible agency determines necessary to carry out the eligible agency’s responsibilities under this title, but not less than 4 times annually;

The State Board Chair requested, in accordance with Title 20-A, Section 405, 7, that the Board receives a quarterly financial report from the Career and Technical Education (CTE) team and the Department of Financial and Administrative Services (DAFS). We would like to submit this report as the second report for FY2014.

RECOMMENDATION: The State Board approve the Quarterly report for the period of October 1, 2013 through December 31, 2013, with totals from July 1, 2013, of the State of Maine Five-Year Plan for Career and Technical Education under the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (P.L.109-270)

MOVED by Steven Pound, seconded by Jana Lapoint, and unanimously voted by those present to approve the Quarterly report for the period of October 1, 2013 through December 31, 2013, with totals from July 1, 2013, of the State of Maine Five-Year Plan for Career and Technical Education under the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (P.L.109-270)

PROPOSED CHANGES TO CHAPTER 115, “CERTIFICATION, AUTHORIZATION AND APPROVAL OF EDUCATION PERSONNEL”

BACKGROUND:

1. On September 15, 2012, Chapter 114 (“Purpose, Standards and Procedures for the Review and Approval of Educational Personnel Preparation Programs”) underwent changes. Among the approved amendments included the addition of a course in special education law to all administrative certificates that did not already require one. Accordingly, Chapter 115, Part II, must now be opened to revise the corresponding certification rules.

2. The summer and early fall of 2012 saw the State Board of Education react to a directive from Public Law 635: LD 1858 “An Act to Ensure Effective Teaching and School Leadership” and established an alternative pathways stakeholders group to review possible changes to Maine’s certification regulations. The group made recommendations to the certification examination process for Career and Technical Education (CTE) teachers. The content knowledge exam would be replaced by industry credentials or industry-related exams. The pedagogical skills and knowledge assessment would be replaced by a series of four pedagogical courses. Also recommended is the requirement of a CTE orientation program for new teachers within the first

year of employment. Transition language is included to allow those continuously certified under conditional certificates to continue under current rules, but all new CTE teachers would fall under the new rules from September 1, 2015, forward.

A public hearing was held on Thursday, December 19, from 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM during which time several members of the public provided testimony. All testimony was in support of the proposed changes. As a result of the public hearing and comment period, no changes were made to the proposed drafted changes to Chapter 115 originally presented to the State Board of Education in November, 2013.

RECOMMENDATION: The State Board of Education's Certification and Higher Education Committee recommends that the State Board of Education provisionally adopt the proposed changes to Chapter 115.

MOVED by Heidi Sampson, seconded by Steven Pound, and unanimously voted by those present to provisionally adopt the proposed changes to Chapter 115.

REQUEST APPROVAL OF THE ANNUAL GEORGE BRIGGS GRANT AWARD FOR FY14

The State Board of Education's Career and Technical Education Committee recommends to the State Board of Education any and all pertinent materials so that the State Board may perform its duties, including its fiduciary responsibilities, as the agency responsible for the administration and oversight of the state career and technical education (CTE) program.

The committee oversees the George M. Briggs Award. It reviews proposals to make recommendations for the approval of programs to enhance career and technical education to the State Board of Education.

RECOMMENDATION: The State Board approve the Annual \$30,000 George Briggs grant for the period of July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014 awarded to MACTE for support of secondary CTE in Maine.

MOVED by Steven Pound, seconded by Jana Lapoint, and unanimously voted by those present to approve the Annual \$30,000 George Briggs grant for the period of July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014 awarded to MACTE for support of secondary CTE in Maine.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Construction Committee

The Construction Committee did not meet in December. The next meeting is scheduled for January 6, 2014.

Certification and Higher Education

The Certification and Higher Education Committee did not meet in December. The next meeting is scheduled for January 27, 2014.

Career and Technical Education

The Career and Technical Education (CTE) Committee did not meet in December. The next meeting is scheduled for January 13, 2014.

OFFICER'S REPORTS:

Chair, Nancy Perkins: (written report)

- On December 5, she missed attending the New England Secondary School Consortium (NESSC) meeting in Portsmouth, NH, due to icy roads. She tried to listen in by phone but it did not work well. She has the NESSC report for 2011-2012 that provides a comparative across the NESSC states.
- She shared the January 9th Education Week's Quality in Education report with charts to see how Maine compares to other states.
- On December 6, she attended the Educate Maine conference in Portland. First Session she attended focused on the commitment that business has to early childhood education and emphasized how important early development was. The second session was led by Superintendent Tim Doak from St. John Valley AOS and President of University of Maine at Presque Isle (UMPI), Linda Schott. This was a very informative discussion about Aroostook County and the need for providing the skills that would keep the students in Aroostook County and encourage businesses to develop there. This could have applied to many of our rural areas.
- On December 10, she attended the Picus report to the Education and Cultural Affairs committee. Basic recommendations: Target low income households with circuit breaker program, more dollars in professional development, use comparative wage income model, recalibrate EPS, address more money for special education, more for needy students before adjusting class size. Noted EPS is a strong model.
- On January 8, she attended a Picus presentation to the Education and Cultural Affairs committee on questions surrounding CWI. This is the index that would replace the 35 labor market areas that is the basis for teachers' salaries. Picus has suggested 8 labor market areas. This was followed by a discussion between the Committee and the Department of Education (DOE). Key point – Jim Rier advised the committee of the incredible amount of work that would be needed to move to EB and noted that the DOE was willing to assist the Committee in final decision. Jim listed the areas of concern: Early Childhood, Disadvantaged students, classroom supports and ratios, CWI, professional development and recognized that there were targeted areas that were not followed through in EPS.
- On January 9, she attended the Maine Principal's Association Conference. This meeting was called to discuss several issues surrounding the role of principals in our Maine schools. 1) Identifying the causes of fewer applicants in the administration field. The numbers of applicants has dropped significantly. 2) Identifying the causes of turnover in positions around the state. Turnover in leadership within our schools is increasing. A report will be forth coming on recommendations to address these issues.
- On January 9, she attended Dr. Silvernail's presentation to the Education and Cultural Affairs Committee on the effects of poverty on achievement in our schools. Key take-away was the negative effect of high poverty schools on those students who were attending these schools and not from low-income homes. Following this report, the Committee discussed the school funding proposal. A consensus of the members present (all but two members in attendance with two members leaving before the discussion was complete) was to remain with the EPS formula as Picus Associates had reported that the formula was good. Most members mentioned adjusting the formula and perhaps looking at how elements of the EB model might be incorporated over time.
- NASBE called her about a month ago and asked if she would do an educational radio show with Larry Jacobs. Peter and she did this last Friday and basically talked about all of the initiatives going on in Maine schools. Mary will send the website to Board members.

- The New England Secondary School Consortium conference is in March. She has reserved four spots. She attempted to hold two rooms, thinking that people could share rooms. The Four Points by Sheraton (855-499-0010) was booked as well as the Courtyard. If anyone is interested, they could drive. Martha and she have driven. It was a long day but worth it.
- Update on the petition for computer science. LEA's can issue credits where science, math, and computer science cross. She has not had any direct communication yet.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS:

Kristin Bishop: (written report)

- On December 10, she attended the MYAN annual leadership conference and her presentation was well received. The youth in attendance were working on their leadership and advocacy skills, and it was an honor to be able to speak to them about some of her leadership experiences and hopefully it inspired them to follow their inner leader.
- She announced she was accepted and will be attending Bowdoin College in the Fall.
- On December 11, she attended her first Visioning Committee meeting at SCTC which granted her excellent information to help move forward on her project.
- She is working with her student government to implement a school climate activity period once a month to help facilitate opportunities for students to work with peers they normally do not have the opportunity to work with and learn to work with students with different interests or perspectives. The hope for this day will be to encourage collaboration of new or different ideas among students to meet goals or overcome social barriers within the school environment.
- She attended the monthly Career and Technical Education (CTE) Committee meeting via telephone.
- She will be attending the first health policy meeting for her school district as a student representative.

Steven Pound:

- He attended the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) Board of Director's meeting on January 24 and 25. The finances at NASBE have improved greatly. The Board approved two study groups, Student Engagement and Rural Education. They are looking at future partnerships with the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) and are planning for the NASBE Annual Legislative Policy Forum that is coming up in March.
- On January 13, he attended the Career and Technical Education (CTE) Committee meeting.
- He also attended the Leadership Committee meeting on January 13.
- On January 13, he and Nancy met with Commissioner Rier regarding the budget.
- The past month he has attended meetings for his position with Cianbro that all tie into education. They are as follows: Educate Maine; Maine Development Foundation; Maine Employees Initiative; Bangor Chamber of Commerce; he presented to a legislative group on Adult Learners; he is on the Harold Alfond Scholarship Committee; and he will be attending the STEM Collaborative on March 28 at Colby College.
- He attended Achieve's Annual Meeting for State Leadership Teams and National Partners in Arlington, Va. on December 12 and 13. The meeting objectives were to provide a forum to incubate and share ideas around the next frontier of the college-and career-ready agenda and to share ideas and promising practices on advancing and realizing the college-and career ready agenda in states.

- He is involved with the Building Bridges Program that Cianbro is a major sponsor of. The program is a business/education partnership sponsored by the Bangor Region Chamber of Commerce. It is an effective educational activity and participating businesses find it a valuable means to develop the future workforce.

William Beardsley:

- On December 19, he attended the public hearing on Chapter 115 “Certification, Authorization and Approval of Education Personnel”.

Martha Harris:

- She attended the Leadership Committee meeting on January 6.
- She has been busy working on Picus and Nancy has attended a couple of meetings for her that she was unable to attend.
- She will be attending the Student Engagement Study Group at the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) on January 23 to 25. She is also the chair of the Awards Committee at NASBE.
- She continues to serve on her local school board and they are very close to extending their school day starting next fall. They have been discussing this for the 19 years that she has served on the Board and it looks like it is going to happen.

Jana Lapoint:

- On December 19, she attended the public hearing on Chapter 115 “Certification, Authorization and Approval of Education Personnel”.
- She continues to be busy with the Charter School Commission. She has 4 hearings coming up this month.

Nichi Farnham:

- On December 19, she chaired the public hearing on Chapter 115 “Certification, Authorization and Approval of Education Personnel”.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Submit travel and expense account vouchers to Mary at the end of the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Leslie Trundy, School Counselor at Morse High School in Bath commented on her concerns about the change to the NCLB testing beginning next year with the move away from the SAT to the Smarter Balanced test.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

MOTION by Steven Pound, seconded by Martha Harris, and unanimously voted by those present for the State Board of Education to go into Executive Session at 2:31 PM for the purpose of interviewing a candidate for Commissioner of Education according to Law 1 MRSA 405(6)(A).

The State Board of Education reconvened the January 15, 2014 regular monthly meeting at 3:40 PM.

Subsequent to the meeting and prior to the minutes being typed, it was noted that within 10 days of meeting with the candidate(s), the State Board shall deliver to the Governor its written appraisal of the strengths and weaknesses of the candidate(s) for Commissioner of Education.

MOTION by Martha Harris, seconded by Steven Pound, and unanimously voted by those present to authorize the Chair of the Board to prepare a report to the Governor to fulfill the Board's statutory responsibilities regarding the Commissioner.

BUDGET:

Steven Pound distributed the Board's budget and gave a brief explanation of expenditures.

ADJOURNMENT:

MOVED by Steven Pound, seconded by Heidi Sampson, and unanimously voted by those present to adjourn the January 15, 2014 State Board of Education meeting at 3:52 PM.